

SUMMARY: The proposed information collection requirement described below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act. The Department is soliciting public comments on the subject proposal.

DATES: *Comments Due Date:* February 26, 2013.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposal. Comments should refer to the proposal by name/or OMB Control number and should be sent to: Colette Pollard, Departmental Reports Management Officer, QDAM, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW., Room 4160, Washington, DC 20410–5000; telephone (202) 402–3400, (this is not a toll-free number) or email Ms. Pollard at Colette.Pollard@hud.gov for a copy of proposed forms, or other available information. Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number through TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Information Relay Service at (800) 877–8339.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ann Marie Oliva, Director, Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs, Office of Community Planning and Development, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW., Room 7262, Washington, DC 20410; telephone (202) 708–1590 (This is not a toll-free number).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department will submit the proposed information collection to OMB for review, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended). This Notice is soliciting comments from members of the public and affected agencies concerning the proposed collection of information to: (1) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

This Notice also lists the following information:

Title of Proposal: Continuum of Care Program Application—Technical Submission.

Description of the need for the information proposed: This submission is to request a reinstatement with revisions of an expired information collection for reporting burden associated with the Technical Submission phase of the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Application. This submission is limited to the Technical Submission process under the CoC Program interim rule, formerly under the Supportive Housing Program and the Shelter Plus Care Program and changed to match the new program name created through the HEARTH Act.

Applicants who are successful in the Continuum of Care Program Homeless Assistance Grant competition are required to submit more detailed technical information before grant agreement. The information to be collected will be used to ensure that technical requirements are met prior to the execution of a grant agreement. The technical requirements relate to a more extensive description of the budgets for supportive services and operations, as well as acquisition, rehabilitation, new construction, rental assistance, leasing, and sources of financing documentation. HUD will use this detailed information to determine if a project is financially feasible and whether all proposed activities are eligible.

All information collected is used to carefully consider conditional applicants for funding. If HUD collects less information, or collected it less frequently, the Department could not make a final determination concerning the eligibility of applicants for grant funds and conditional applicants would not be eligible to sign grant agreements and receive funding. To see the regulations for the new CoC Program and applicable supplementary documents, visit HUD's Homeless Resource Exchange CoC page at <http://www.hudhre.info/coc/>. The statutory provisions and the implementing interim rule (also found at 24 CFR part 587) that govern the program require the information provided by the Technical Submission.

Agency Form Numbers: HUD–40090–3a, HUD–40090–3b.

Members of the affected public: Conditional recipients of new CoC Program grant awards, including nonprofit organizations, local and state governments.

Estimation of the total number of hours needed to prepare the information collection including number of respondents, frequency of response, and

hours of response: Once a project is conditionally awarded, all applicants with new projects must complete the appropriate Technical Submission forms in e-snaps to receive funding. Each type of project will require a unique set of forms to meet compliance, and so the estimates below represent an average of applicants that have several forms to complete. We are anticipating a maximum of 750 responses this year, with each respondent completing only 1 technical submission at 8 hours per response for a total of 6,000 hours. While much of the content remains the same as in the previous collection, we have estimated that the move to an electronic collection will save a minimum average of 1 hour per response, for a total savings of 750 hours.

Status of proposed information collection: Reinstatement, with change, of previously approved collection for which approval has expired.

Authority: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended.

Dated: December 20, 2012.

Mark Johnston,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Special Needs Programs.

[FR Doc. 2012–31184 Filed 12–27–12; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR–5673–D–01]

Order of Succession for the Office of Housing

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner, HUD.

ACTION: Notice of Order of Succession.

SUMMARY: In this notice, the Acting Assistant Secretary for Housing designates the Order of Succession for the Office of Housing. This Order of Succession supersedes all prior Orders of Succession for the Assistant Secretary for Housing, including that published on June 20, 2012 (77 FR 37237).

DATES: *Effective Date:* December 28, 2012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laura Marin, Acting General Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 Seventh Street SW., Room 9110, Washington, DC 20410–0500; telephone number 202–402–2689 (this is not a toll-free number). Persons with hearing or speech impairments

may call HUD's toll-free Federal Relay Service at 800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Acting Assistant Secretary for Housing for the Department of Housing and Urban Development is issuing this Order of Succession of officials authorized to perform the functions and duties of the Office of Housing when, by reason of absence, disability, or vacancy in office, the Acting Assistant Secretary is not available to exercise the powers or perform the duties of the office. This Order of Succession is subject to the provisions of the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998 (5 U.S.C. 3345-3349d). This publication supersedes the Order of Succession notice published on June 20, 2012 (77 FR 37237).

Accordingly, the Acting Assistant Secretary for Housing designates the following Order of Succession:

Section A. Order of Succession

Subject to the provisions of the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998, during any period when, by reason of absence, disability, or vacancy in office, the Acting Assistant Secretary for Housing for the Department of Housing and Urban Development is not available to exercise the powers or perform the duties of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing, the following officials within the Office of Housing are hereby designated to exercise the powers and perform the duties of the Acting Assistant Secretary for Housing, including the authority to waive regulations:

- (1) General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Housing;
- (2) Deputy Assistant Secretary for Single Family Housing;
- (3) Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multifamily Housing;
- (4) Deputy Assistant Secretary for Housing Counseling;
- (5) Associate General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Housing;
- (6) Deputy Assistant Secretary for Risk Management and Regulatory Affairs;
- (7) Deputy Assistant Secretary for Finance and Budget;
- (8) Deputy Assistant Secretary for Operations;
- (9) Deputy Assistant Secretary for Healthcare Programs.

These officials shall perform the functions and duties of the office in the order specified herein, and no official shall serve unless all other officials whose position titles precede his/hers in this order are unable to act by reason of absence, disability, or vacancy in office.

Section B. Authority Superseded

This Order of Succession supersedes all prior Orders of Succession for the Assistant Secretary for Housing, including that published on June 20, 2012 (77 FR 37237).

Authority: Section 7(d), Department of Housing and Urban Development Act, 42 U.S.C. 3535(d).

Dated: December 28, 2012.

Carol J. Galante,

*Acting Assistant Secretary for Housing—
Federal Housing Commissioner.*

[FR Doc. 2012-31628 Filed 1-2-13; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

[Docket No. FR-5672-D-01]

Redelegation of Authority to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Housing Counseling

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner, HUD.

ACTION: Notice of redelegation of authority.

SUMMARY: The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (Dodd-Frank Act), amends section 106 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 and authorizes the establishment of an Office of Housing Counseling in the Department of Housing and Urban Development. This Notice describes specific organizational steps that HUD has taken to establish an Office of Housing Counseling and redelegates authority to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Housing Counseling, a new position established to have primary responsibility within HUD for all activities and matters relating to homeownership and rental housing counseling consistent with section 1442 of the Dodd-Frank Act.

DATES: *Effective Date:* December 28, 2012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Housing Counseling, 451 7th Street SW., Room 9224, Washington, DC, 20410, Telephone: 202-708-0317. (This is not a toll-free number). Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number by calling HUD's toll-free Federal Relay Service number at 800-877-8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In general, HUD's major program for housing counseling is authorized by section 106 of the Housing and Urban Development

Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701x *et seq.*) (1968 Act). Other statutory authority also requires HUD to provide, or cause to be provided, counseling assistance, including sections 255(f) and (l) of the National Housing Act (relating to Home Equity Conversion Mortgages) (12 U.S.C. 1715z-20) and section 2128 of the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (relating to a pre-homeownership counseling demonstration project) (12 U.S.C. 1701x note). Other authority for HUD's housing counseling program is referenced in section 1442 of the Dodd-Frank Act (Pub. L. 111-203, approved July 21, 2010). As the primary authority for HUD's housing counseling program, section 106 is funded annually through appropriations action under a specific appropriations account for housing counseling. Activities under section 106 include pre-purchase and post-purchase homeownership counseling, default and foreclosure prevention counseling, counseling for renter households, counseling in connection with reverse mortgages and counseling to protect consumers from mortgage fraud. Counseling is provided through HUD-approved housing counseling agencies which receive grants from HUD to provide these services.

Subtitle D of Title XIV of the Dodd-Frank Act, which consists of sections 1440 through 1452, makes several amendments to strengthen HUD's housing counseling program. Section 1442 amends section 4 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Act (42 U.S.C. 3533) (Department of HUD Act) to establish an Office of Housing Counseling within HUD specifically devoted to administration and oversight of housing counseling agencies, individual counselors and the counseling services offered under the program. Sections 1443, 1444, 1445 and 1448 of the Dodd-Frank Act amend section 106 of the 1968 Act to improve the effectiveness of HUD's housing counseling program by, among other things, defining certain commonly used terms in the program; ensuring that HUD-approved counselors provide counseling covering the entire process of homeownership from the purchase of a home to its disposition, ensuring that rental or homeownership counseling required under certain HUD programs is administered in accordance with procedures established by HUD, and requiring that all HUD-related homeownership counseling and rental housing counseling is provided by HUD-certified housing counseling agencies through HUD-certified housing counselors.